

Σ1
bronchus cancer, a colorectal cancer, a prostate cancer, a pancreas cancer, a stomach cancer, an ovarian cancer, a urinary bladder cancer, a brain or central nervous system cancer, a peripheral nervous system cancer, an esophageal cancer, a cervical cancer, a melanoma, a uterine or endometrial cancer, a cancer of the oral cavity or pharynx, a liver cancer, a kidney cancer, a biliary tract cancer, a small bowel or appendix cancer, a salivary gland cancer, a thyroid gland cancer, an adrenal gland cancer, an osteosarcoma, a chondrosarcoma, a liposarcoma, a testes cancer, and a malignant fibrous histiocytoma;

(b) measuring the level of YKL-40 in said sample and comparing the sample YKL-40 level to the YKL-40 level found in the same sample from a normal healthy human wherein a sample YKL-40 level in excess of YKL-40 levels in the same sample from a normal healthy human indicates a reduced survival expectancy compared to patients with normal YKL-40 level.

Σ2
10. The method of claim 1, wherein said biological sample is a sample selected from the group consisting of whole blood, plasma, serum, synovial fluid, cerebrospinal fluid, bronchial lavage, ascites fluid, bone marrow aspirate, pleural effusion, urine, and tumor tissue.

Σ3
38. A method to screen for recurrence of a cancer after removal of a primary tumor, said method comprising:

(a) obtaining a biological sample comprising YKL-40 from a cancer patient following removal of a primary tumor selected from the group consisting of a lung cancer, a bronchus cancer, a colorectal cancer, a prostate cancer, a pancreas cancer, a stomach cancer, an ovarian cancer, a urinary bladder cancer, a brain or central nervous system cancer, a peripheral nervous system cancer, an esophageal cancer, a cervical cancer, a melanoma, a uterine or endometrial cancer, a cancer of the oral cavity or pharynx, a liver cancer, a kidney cancer, a biliary tract cancer, a small bowel or appendix cancer, a salivary gland cancer, a thyroid gland cancer, an adrenal gland cancer, an osteosarcoma, a chondrosarcoma, a liposarcoma, a testes cancer, and a malignant fibrous histiocytoma; and

(b) measuring a level of YKL-40 in said sample and comparing the sample YKL-40 level to the YKL-40 level found in the same sample in a normal healthy human wherein a sample YKL-40 level in excess of YKL-40 levels in a normal healthy human indicates a possible recurrence of said cancer.

Σ4
47. A method of screening for a cancer, in a mammal, said method comprising:

(a) obtaining a biological sample comprising YKL-40 from said mammal;

E4 (b) measuring the level of YKL-40 in said sample and comparing the level to the YKL-40 level found in the same sample from a normal healthy mammal, wherein a statistically significant difference in YKL-40 level in the sample being tested compared to the sample from a normal healthy mammal indicates the presence of a cancer selected from the group consisting of a lung cancer, a bronchus cancer, a prostate cancer, a pancreas cancer, a stomach cancer, an ovarian cancer, a urinary bladder cancer, a brain or central nervous system cancer, a peripheral nervous system cancer, an esophageal cancer, a cervical cancer, a melanoma, a uterine or endometrial cancer, a cancer of the oral cavity or pharynx, a liver cancer, a kidney cancer, a biliary tract cancer, a small bowel or appendix cancer, a salivary gland cancer, a thyroid gland cancer, an adrenal gland cancer, an osteosarcoma, a chondrosarcoma, a liposarcoma, a testes cancer, and a malignant fibrous histiocytoma.

E5- 50. The method of claim 47, wherein said cancer is selected from the group consisting of a breast cancer, a lung cancer, and a prostate cancer.

51. The method of claim 47, wherein said cancer is selected from the group consisting of a stomach cancer, a cervical cancer, an ovarian cancer, and a malignant melanoma.

These amendments are made without prejudice and are not to be construed as abandonment of the previously claimed subject matter or agreement with the Examiner's position. In accordance with the requirements of 37 C.F.R. § 1.121, a marked up version showing the changes to the claims, is attached herewith as Appendix A. For the Examiner's convenience, a complete claim set of the currently pending claims is also submitted herewith as Appendix B.

REMARKS

Status of the Claims.

Claims 1-18, 38, 39, 47, 49-52, and 54-62 are pending with entry of this amendment, claims 48 and 53 being cancelled and no claims being added herein. Claims 1, 10, 38, 47, 50, and 51 are amended herein. These amendments introduce no new matter. Support is replete throughout the specification, in particular, in the claims as originally filed.